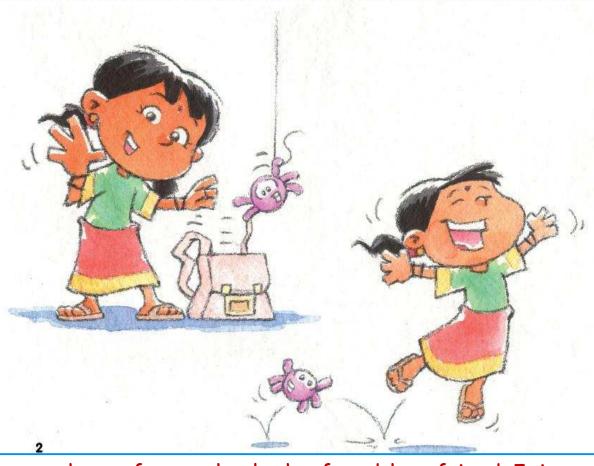




## **THE GIANT JALEBIS**



When Runjhun came home from school, she found her friend Jojo eagerly waiting for her. "I am very angry with you for getting late," he said.

Runjhun replied, "Jojo dear, I can understand your anger. I was helping my best friend Antara with her homework."

Jojo was still annoyed. He said, "I think you don't consider me as your friend since I am a spider. I will not play with you anymore. Nor will I tell you any nice stories."

Runjhun laughed when she heard this. She said, "Come Jojo, don't be a cry baby. Let us play. It will change your mood."



But Jojo did not move. This worried Runjhun. She remembered that he enjoyed watching television. She switched it on. However, Jojo still had a gloomy look.

She wondered what will make him smile. He usually enjoyed switching on and off of light. But that day that also did not change his mood.



She got a toy train for him and gave him a green flag so that he could wave it when she started the train. But Jojo threw away the flag.





Jojo had tears in his eyes. He kept saying, "Runjhun does not love me." As she was wondering what to do to please him, she suddenly had an idea.





Runjhun told Jojo, "I know that you love jalebis. I will get some yummy jalebis for you." She could already feel the aroma of the lovely jalebis.

Jojo replied, "I don't want any jalebis."



Nevertheless, Runjhun gave a call to 'Chaman Sweet House' and ordered for one kilogram of jalebis. She knew that although he was denying, Jojo loved the jalebis and would smile when they arrive.



Even before she had kept the phone, the room was full of the heavenly aroma of the jalebis. She opened the door.





Big and yummy jalebis suddenly started flying into the room. Her mouth started watering. She picked up one and said, "Jojo, please have a little and smile. I will never leave you alone."

Just as Jojo had taken a small piece of jalebi in his hands, the jalebis around them suddenly started growing in size! They were growing larger than them and one of them started pulling both of them towards it.



Both of them tried to run away from the jalebis. But one jalebi caught them and gulped them. They kept going inside the jalebi.





The passage was circular, slippery and smooth. It was almost as if they were going down a slide. Runjhun shouted, "Where are we?"

Jojo replied sadly, "I think we have been swallowed by one of the giant jalebis. I am so sorry. We have landed in trouble because of my stupidity."

Runjhun asked him, "What are giant jalebis?"

He replied, "I have heard from fellow spiders that giant jalebis are in town and they are eating whatever comes their way. No one has any control over them."



Hearing this, Runjhun began to cry. The thought of the jalebis eating them both alive was giving her jitters. Jojo watched her cry helplessly. He was heartbroken. He loved Runjhun. She was his best friend.





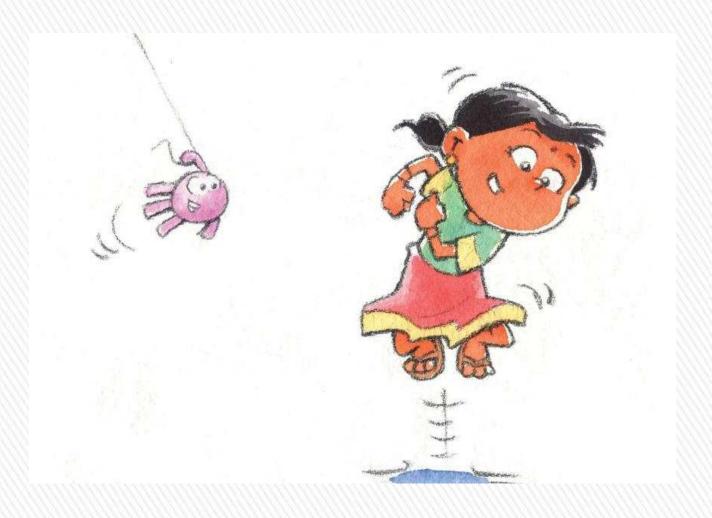
He said, "Runjhun, your mother always tells you that one should never give up even in the worst of circumstances. Think of ways by which we could get out of this giant jalebi!" Runjhun said with disgust, "How can one have courage in these conditions? Don't you know that we will soon perish?"

He replied, "There has to be a way out. Think, think, think!"



Runjhun finally decided that she would not let the jalebi swallow her. She would do something to get them both out of it.





She tried to break the ground like structure on which she was standing.





She tried to blow so hard that the shell of the jalebi breaks.





She even cried loudly for help. She was hoping that her mother may hear her and rescue them from the giant jalebis.

However, she was not successful in her endeavors.



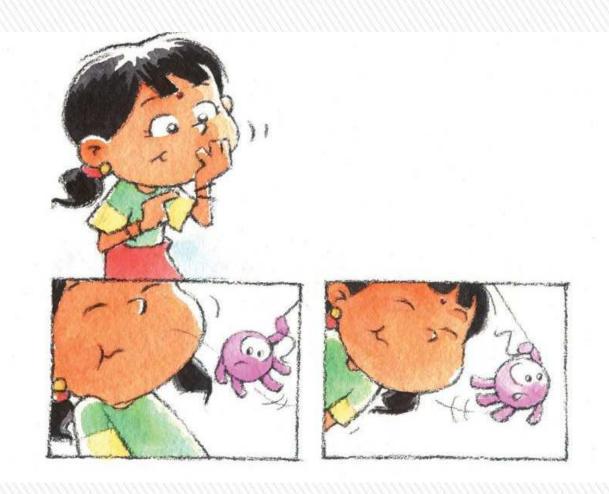
Seeing her so dejected, Jojo came to her and said, "I think I can help you. I know how we can get out of this trap."



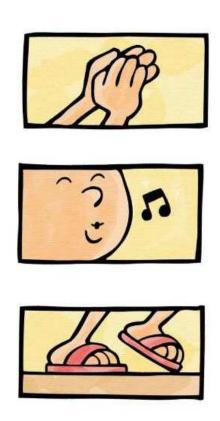


Runjhun could not believe him for a while. But when Jojo told her his plans, she jumped in joy and exclaimed, "Oh! Why didn't I think of this earlier?"





While Runjhun looked amazedly, Jojo started his work. He kept weaving a web. The web went round and round and round till he reached the outside of the arm of the giant jalebi. He asked Runjhun to walk up the way by catching his web.



Soon they were out of the giant jalebi's trap. Runjhun clapped, whistled and danced. She was too happy to get away from the giant jalebis.

